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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 8 APRIL 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED RESPECTIVELY TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government I have the honour to inform you of the following:

Once again, and in the course of a mere 48 hours, the Security Council has seen fit to adopt another tendentious and biased resolution against Iraq. The character of resolution 688 (1991) is clear, in particular, from the fact that it was adopted despite the Council's being informed of Iraq's readiness to receive a fact-finding mission from the United Nations.

Such a disregard for the readiness expressed by Iraq constitutes yet another precedent in the Security Council's treatment of Iraq that has no counterpart in the history of the Council.

Once again, the Council in this resolution perpetuates the use of double standards in its treatment of Iraq, if we take as an example the way in which it dealt with the massacre perpetrated by the Israeli occupation authorities against Palestinians at the Haram al-Sharif in Jerusalem on 8 October 1990. Now, however, while Iraq is expressing its readiness to receive an international commission of inquiry, the Council ignores that fact and adopts its condemnatory resolution.

Furthermore, in its resolution the Council refers to what it calls "cross border incursions", and this is a calumny for which it does not provide any evidence. In its resolution, the Council further requests that Iraq should allow international humanitarian organizations to function for the purpose of providing relief. A text containing such a request is meaningless, because these organizations are now, already, operating in Iraq and the Iraqi authorities are cooperating fully with them, as the organizations themselves acknowledge.

It is extremely paradoxical that the Council should show interest in letters from Iran and Turkey concerning the situation of the Kurds despite the

fact that the world knows full well that these States do not by any means recognize any of the rights of the Kurds (such as distinct nationality) in their countries, where the majority of Kurds are to be found. The allegations made in these letters are no more than an exercise in hypocrisy, blackmail and tendentious propaganda against Iraq, which has been, and which continues to be, in the vanguard of the countries of the region in dealing with the Kurdish issue in a humane and democratic manner. The legal, political and actual facts in this regard are well-established.

It is also paradoxical in the extreme that such countries as Iran, Syria and the United States should incite agents and subversives against authority in Iraq or infiltrate their lackeys across international boundaries and provide them with weapons and matériel and, when the government authorities undertake to perform their duties for the restoration of security and stability to their country and for the protection of civilians against intimidation, murder, plunder, sabotage and the other criminal acts being committed by these agents, that these very countries should stir up campaigns of defamation against Iraq and should condemn it.

The great majority of so-called refugees are peaceable inhabitants who have been deceived by agents. They have intimidated them with false allegations in order to induce them to flee from their homes, and they have obliged them to do so by force of arms when the hope of the subversives to impose their domination over the areas in which they have wreaked havoc was thwarted.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdul Amir A. AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative